

*"Behold, now is the  
acceptable time; behold,  
now is the day of salvation."  
II Cor. 6:2*

**LeTourneau  
College**

**Faith brings  
us together.  
Ingenuity sets  
us apart.**

# VIEW

## Capital Campaign Off to a Good Beginning

Approximately two million dollars in cash and pledges has been contributed to the "Capture The Vision" capital campaign for LeTourneau College as of Jan. 1, 1989, according to President Alvin O. Austin.

"This is the largest campaign in the College's history," said Austin, "and it will help to usher in a new era of growth and expansion. The best is yet to come," he added. The three-year campaign, with a base goal of \$5.7 million and a challenge goal of \$7.7 million, officially began July 1, 1988, and was authorized by the Board of Trustees April 29, 1988 following the completion of a research study by Cargill Associates, a Fort Worth-based fundraising and development consulting firm.

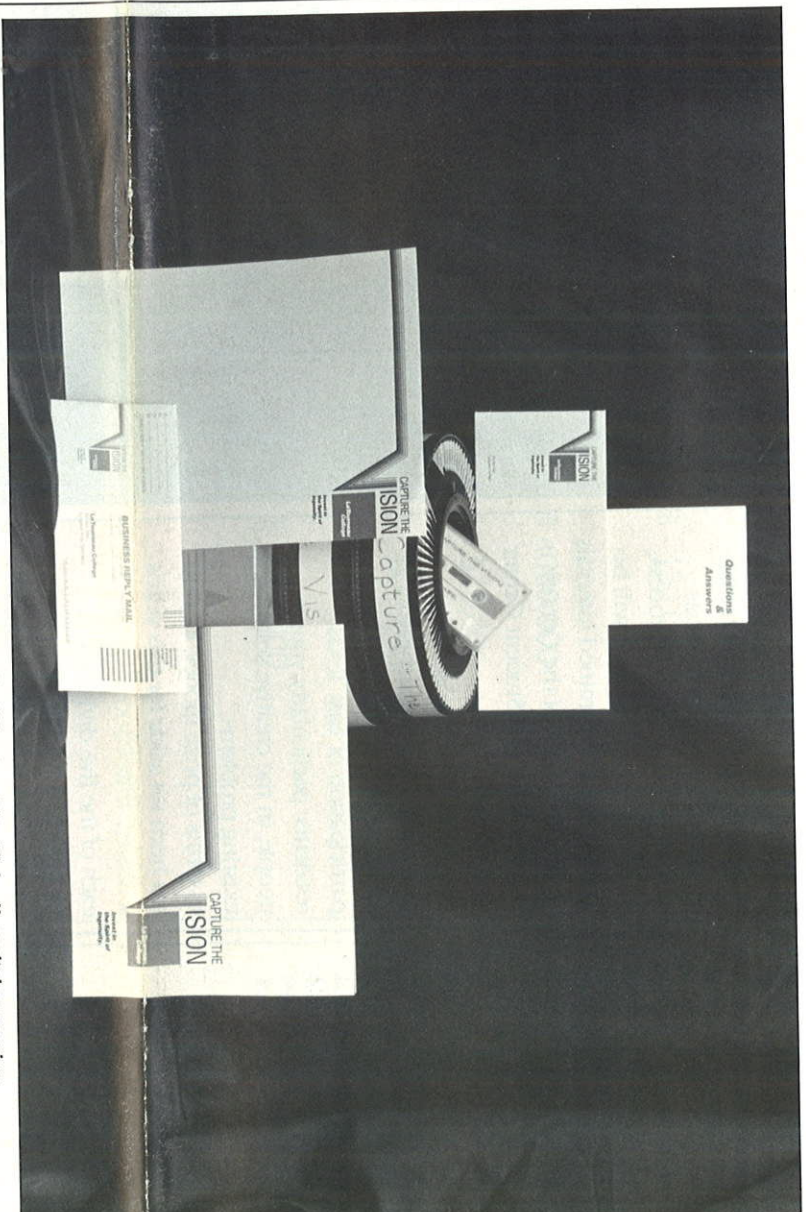
"As we prepare to enter the

1990's, this campaign will help to position LeTourneau College for continued excellence and leadership as one of the premier Christian colleges in America," said Paul Glasko, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Phase One (the base goal) includes two million dollars for a business, mathematics and computer science center; \$250,000 for academic and engineering equipment; \$50,000 for faculty development; \$150,000 for library and learning resources materials; \$300,000 for campus beautification, including entrance, streets, lighting and mall development; \$1,545,000 for development; \$1,545,000 for scholarships and financial aid; \$905,000 for general program support; and \$500,000 for the development phase of a campus-community center.

Phase Two (the challenge goal) includes an additional two million dollars for completion of the Campus-Community Center. The new classroom building will provide a home for the business, math and computer science departments, all of which are currently housed in old barracks buildings. Plans call for the new structure to be tied in with the

*(Continued on Page 2)*



*Pictured above are samples of the materials being used to promote the "Capture The Vision" capital campaign.*

## Berry to Chair Faculty/Staff Division

Richard Berry, professor of engineering and chairman of the Division of Engineering and Engineering Technology, is chairing the Faculty/Staff Division of the "Capture The Vision" capital campaign.

"I can think of no other individual more qualified to serve in this key position," said Dr. Jim Stjernstrom, vice president for college advancement.

Base goal for the Faculty/Staff Division is \$50,000, with a challenge goal of \$75,000.

According to Stjernstrom, as of Jan. 13 the total pledged by faculty and staff to the campaign is \$78,924.

"We have surpassed the base goal and have reached 105 percent of the challenge goal," said Stjernstrom.

"This is a reflection of the caliber of individuals who make up our campus family, and of their conviction of the importance of LeTourneau College," he added. Berry, a longtime fixture on the campus who has held a number of different positions, is being assisted by a Leadership Advisory



**Richard Berry**

Council made up of Roger Erickstad, Bill Franklin, Leta Fae Arnold, Gerrie Forbis, Paul Hara, Dr. Fred Carlson, Dr. Alvin O. Austin, and Stjernstrom.

In addition, a number of other volunteers have assisted the Council in various capacities such as distributing and collecting pledge cards.

The major effort of the Leadership Advisory Council was a Nov. 21 faculty/staff kickoff dinner attended by approximately 150 employees and spouses.

Following the dinner, presentations were made by Berry, Stjernstrom and President Austin,

followed by a question-and-answer session. Included also was a special 10-minute multimedia show about the capital campaign.

## Homecoming Set March 31-April 1

The annual Homecoming and Alumni Weekend has been scheduled for March 31-April 1, with traditional activities such as Hootenanny, society rope pulls, a student rodeo, an Alumni Breakfast, and an Alumni and Faculty/Staff Banquet planned. There will also be special activities to dedicate the new KZX Society House on Saturday afternoon, with an Open House and 26th Anniversary Reunion planned.

At the Alumni Breakfast, special presentations will be made to the Alumni of the Year and the Honorary Alumni of the Year. For reservations, contact Kendall Harper, alumni secretary, at 214/753-0231, Ext. 365.

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Invention Contest  
Set for April 10-18

The Fourth Annual LeTourneau College Invitational Invention and Design Contest will be held April 10-18, according to Dr. Russell Primrose, vice president for academic affairs.

"The contest will be basically the same as in previous years," said Primrose, "with a few notable exceptions."

Changes involve new rules such as the exclusion of entries for which a patent has been issued and the restriction of eligibility to contestants living within a 100-mile radius of Longview, and the addition of an instructional multimedia series on famous inventors, the creativity process, and related topics. These will be shown at predetermined intervals during the week of the Contest in the Memorial and Student Center Auditorium.

According to Primrose, "The purpose of the Contest is to stimulate and encourage the participation of East Texas residents, particularly young people, in the creative solution to existing problems."

In terms of prize money, \$2,000 has been set aside for this year's winners, with \$400 available for each of the five divisions.

Included are Middle School (grades 6-8), High School (grades 9-12), Junior College, Senior College, and Adult.

\$200 will be awarded for first place, \$100 for second place, and \$50 for third place in each division, with two \$25 awards for Honorable Mention.

Teachers, contestants and their families will be invited to attend an Awards Reception April 18 at the College.

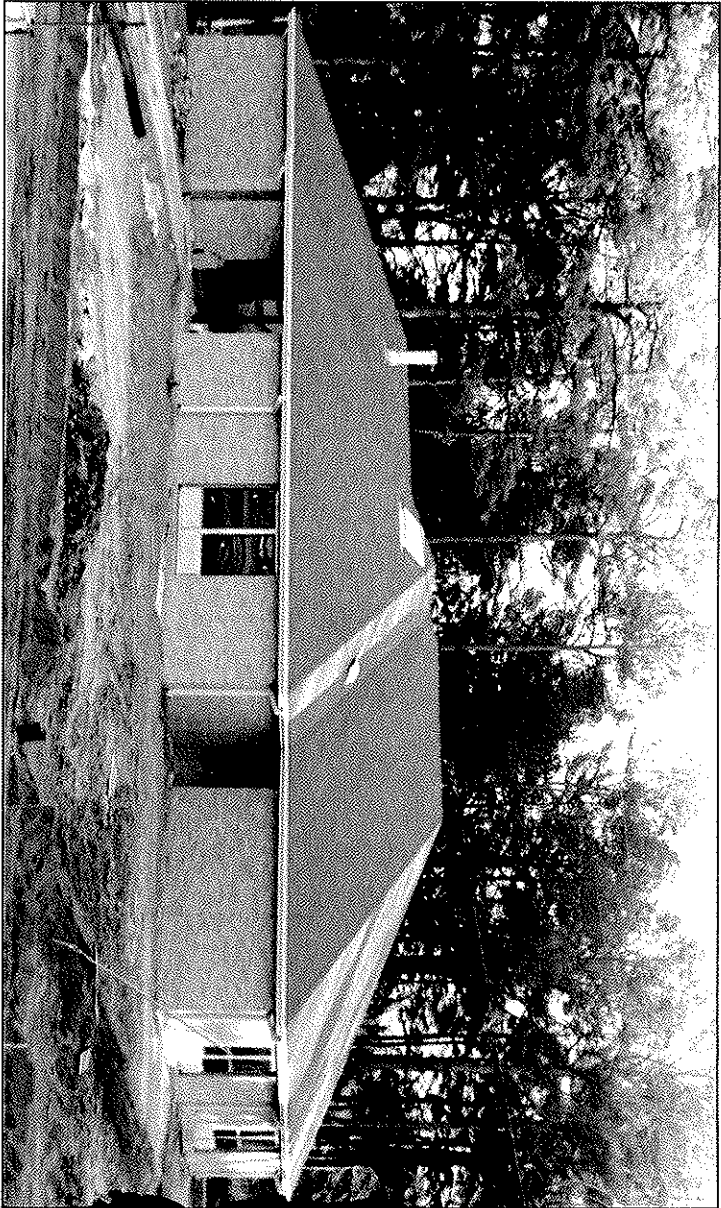
Each entry will be judged on a 100-point scale based on the following criteria: Most Potentially Beneficial to Society, 30 points; Most Innovative, 25 points; Most Potentially Profitable, 20 points; Most Effectively Displayed, 15 points; and Most Aesthetically Pleasing, 10 points.

All entries must be received by 5 p.m. April 10 in the Office of Academic Affairs in order to be eligible for judging.

Entries will be on display April 11-18 on the Third Floor of the Memorial and Student Center at LeTourneau College.

Two mailings are planned to area schools—one in February containing a cover letter and complete contest packet, and a reminder letter in March.

The Contest is sponsored by the LeTourneau College Associates, an advisory group of business and community leaders from the East Texas area.



The new KZX Society House is progressing with most of the work completed to the outside of the building.



The LeTourneau College Chorus includes 20 students directed by Scarlett Morris.

Capital Campaign — (Continued From Page 1)

Heath-Hardwick Liberal Arts Center, thus creating a major academic complex along the central campus mall.

Funds for new equipment, faculty development and library and learning resource materials will help to keep the College abreast of current trends and developments in teaching and technology.

In keeping with the landscaping masterplan established several years ago, the campaign includes the landscaping of major focal points on the campus including the development of the central mall area, the addition of lighting, and a redesigned entrance.

Since most students come from homes of modest financial resources, strengthening the scholarship program will enable the College to provide for the difference between their ability to pay and the actual cost of providing an education at LeTourneau.

General program support will help to meet essential operating costs that are the nuts and bolts expenses of running a college.

The unrestricted nature of Annual Fund dollars provides flexibility to adjust to changing needs and circumstances and to meet compelling needs when they arise.

And last but not least, the Campus and Community Center is designed to be the hub of campus activity. It will bring together in one building all of the functions which provide service to students, including the dining hall and several smaller rooms which will be used for meetings and small group luncheons. Also included will be offices for the dean of students and the student affairs staff, offices for student government, the student lounge and snackbar, campus post office, and bookstore. Dining facilities and meeting rooms will be available for use by responsible community groups.

The Capture The Vision campaign is made up of several divisions, including

Trustees/Former Trustees, Faculty/Staff, Greater Longview, Parents, Alumni, Foundations/Corporations, Select Friends/Direct Mail, and Advanced Gifts.

Three of the divisions—Trustees/Former Trustees, Faculty/Staff, and Alumni—are underway at present. One (Advanced Gifts) has been completed and the others will begin later this year.

John N. Thomas, Sr., of Lancaster, Pa. is chairing the Trustees portion of the campaign, with S. E. Belcher, Jr. of Brent, Ala. serving as honorary chairman and Don Wolgemuth of Mount Joy, Pa. chairing the Former Trustees section.

Richard Berry, professor of engineering and chairman of the Division of Engineering and Engineering Technology, is chairing the Faculty/Staff Division, and Jerry Fritsch (MT'74) of Casper, Wyo. is chairing the Alumni Division.



President's Message

We Need Your Help to Capture The Vision

Vision is a necessary ingredient for every effective organization. In their recent best seller, *A Passion for Excellence*, Thomas Peters and Nancy Austin assert that having an empowering vision and passionately communicating it to others is an essential element of leadership. Since its founding in 1946, LeTourneau College has been blessed with vision. Our founder, R. G. LeTourneau, was a visionary. He envisioned an institution that would combine quality academic programs, a commitment to the Christian faith, and an appreciation for practical skills. He had the vision and he made it happen. Throughout our forty-three year history, that vision has been reaffirmed and augmented by our many committed Christian faculty, staff, administrators and Board members. We remain enthusiastically Christian, dedicated to academic excellence, and committed to producing graduates that not only know it but can do it.

However, we are at a crossroads. We have the vision but we must move forward with boldness if we are to capture it and preserve it for future generations. Our commitment to be a Christian college is as strong as ever. Our Board, our faculty, our staff and this President are all dedicated to making our faith in Jesus Christ the foundation of all that we do. However, our dedication to excellence and our ability to address the many concerns of our students is being challenged.

As good stewards of our resources, we have sought to utilize to the fullest our original facilities. As you know, the College was founded on the site of the former Harmon Army Hospital, a hastily-constructed facility built to meet the needs of World War II. We are blessed with spacious grounds and we have made significant progress over the years in replacing many of the temporary buildings with permanent structures. However, we still have two academic divisions, Mathematics and Computer Science and Business Administration, that are housed in the original wooden barracks. Expensive to maintain and inadequate for effective instruction, these must be replaced with a new classroom structure.

Our dining facility is too small and we lack adequate officing for our student services programs and have only limited space for students to gather for meetings and informal interaction. We need a major addition to our cafeteria that would include the components of a campus center. This is not a luxury; it is space that almost every campus has but due to our youth as an institution, we have not yet achieved this. In addition, many of our roadways and walkways were built to accommodate an army base. We need to upgrade these and to provide for adequate safety lighting and landscaping.

The cost of attending LeTourneau College, while modest in comparison to many institutions, is increasingly a barrier to attendance for many students. In a followup survey of the students who applied for

Campaign Summary

PHASE ONE

\$5,700,000

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Business, Mathematics, and Computer Science Center | \$2,000,000 |
| Academic/Engineering Equipment                     | \$ 250,000  |
| Faculty Development                                | \$ 50,000   |
| Library & Learning Resources Materials             | \$ 150,000  |
| Campus Beautification:                             |             |
| Entrance, Streets, Lighting, Mall                  | \$ 300,000  |
| Scholarships & Financial Aid                       | \$1,545,000 |
| General Program Support                            | \$ 905,000  |
| Campus Community Center — Development Phase        | \$ 500,000  |

PHASE TWO

\$2,000,000

|                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Completion of Campus-Community Center | \$2,000,000 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|

TOTAL PHASES ONE AND TWO

\$7,700,000

admission to the College last year but did not actually enroll, more than fifty percent of them indicated that they and their families simply could not afford the costs. Lack of adequate financial aid must not be the reason that a student is denied the opportunity for a LeTourneau education. We must seek the funds to better assist the student who desires a Christian education as a means of preparing themselves for a life of service to God and their fellow man.

As a college offering state-of-the-art programs, we constantly struggle to maintain currency in academic and engineering equipment, in our library and learning resources, and in the ongoing training of our faculty.

You can read more about these pressing needs elsewhere in this issue of *Now*.

To help us meet these challenges to our future, our Board of Trustees has authorized the "Capture The Vision" capital campaign to seek the necessary support from our alumni, friends, and corporations and foundations. Our goal is to raise between \$5.7 and \$7.7 million over the next three years. This is the largest capital drive in the history of the College. While modest in comparison to the fund appeals of some other institutions, it is a major challenge for

us. With a relatively short institutional history and small alumni base, we do not have a large group of donors to whom we can appeal. Therefore, it is doubly important that as many of our constituents as possible take part in the campaign.

You can help us "Capture The Vision" for tomorrow. First, pray that God will call forth persons and organizations that believe in what we are doing—providing Christian education and training for the leaders of tomorrow. We want God's people to give because they want to be a part of God's plan for LeTourneau College. Pray that they will be motivated to give generously and sacrificially. Second, share with us the names of persons or organizations to whom we might present the "Capture The Vision" message. We use no high pressure sales techniques, we simply share the need. Third, consider what you might do. No gift is too small.

"Where there is no vision, the people perish. . . ." We have the opportunity to "Capture The Vision" of what LeTourneau College can become and to preserve this vision for the generations of tomorrow. On behalf our Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and students, I invite and encourage you to be a part of this campaign.

Gold Key

The Teaching Faculty Organization has named ten students to the Gold Key Club, oldest academic honor society on the campus, for the 1988-89 school year.

These represent the ten seniors who, in the eyes of the faculty, best represent LeTourneau College in the areas of learning, loyalty and leadership.

Selected were John Andersen, Minneapolis, Minn.; Michael Barron, Ticonderoga, N.Y.; Rockkian Denepitya, Mt. Lavinia, Sri Lanka; Stephen Fretz, East Berlin, Pa.; Gary Gearhart, Levittown, Pa.; Timothy Gess, Saranac, Mich.; Timothy Graber, Scotch Plains, N.J.; Shawn Lohstroh, Grandville, Mich.; Sharon Siske, Iredell, Tex.; and Stanley Young, Olathe, Kan.

Women's Week

Popular songwriter/singer Gloria Gaither will keynote Women's Week activities at LeTourneau College Feb. 23-24, according to Shannon Howard, Women's Week coordinator. Gaither, who has authored seven books and co-authored close to 500 songs, eight musicals and 30 albums as a member of the Bill Gaither Trio, will speak in chapel both days and also at a special women's banquet Feb. 23 at 7:00 p.m. She and her husband, Bill, have shared two Grammy Awards, a Dove Award in 1985, and Songwriter of the Year in 1986. Tickets for the general public are \$7. For reservations or more information, contact Howard at 753-0231, Ext. 240.



# Faculty Member Supports Mission Efforts

After two close relatives had died in 1985, leaving their personal belongings to her, Leta Fae Arnold, assistant professor of English and speech at Le Tourneau College, asked herself the question, "Who are the poorest of the poor?"

The answer, she said, that came to her was "those who have never heard the good news of God's gift to men, His Son Jesus." So she decided to open a resale shop, sell what she had inherited, and send the profits to two friends—former colleagues Ilene Foote and Trudy Stewart—working as Wycliffe Bible translators in Congo, Africa.

That's as far as her vision went, but God's vision went far beyond that.

A board of directors was formed and the resale shop was incorporated as a nonprofit organization, The King's Garden, with Arnold as executive director.

From this humble beginning, The King's Garden has generated nearly \$20,000 in contributions to missionaries—many of whom are LeTourneau graduates and former students of Arnold's—from the sale of cars, pianos, clothing, furniture and other items that people donate for the cause of missions. And while she may not have a green thumb, Arnold does have a heart of gold—at least where missionaries are concerned. "Friends have stopped giving me gifts because they're afraid I'll sell them," she laughed.

"The only thing I won't sell is Ferdinand Magellan, my 19½ pound Maltese cat.

"Since childhood, I've loved to hear and read about missionaries," said Arnold. "In the late Seventies I began a ministry of intercession for world missions," she continued.

Using *Operation World*, a book listing each country and its needs for the message of Jesus Christ, Arnold prayed around the world, country by country.

"I had world maps on my bedroom wall," she said. "Out of this intercession came a desire to support missionaries."

As a teacher at LeTourneau College, whose founder R. G. LeTourneau gave 90 percent of his income to missions, Arnold has come into contact with missionaries from all over the world.

Many of their friends and relatives donate



*Leta Fae Arnold, assistant professor of English and Speech, stands beside her wall map of missionaries supported by The King's Garden.*

household goods for sale at The King's Garden, and proceeds are distributed to those designated. All undesignated funds go into a general account, and twice a year—in

January and July—The King's Garden distributes money to missionaries named during the previous six months.

"In January, we wrote checks totaling \$2,400 for 12 missionaries," said Arnold.

These included five Wycliffe Bible translators; a pilot for Air Serve, which flies food to needy famine areas in Ethiopia; and six missionaries in countries such as El Salvador, Peru, Germany, Nigeria and Haiti.

"As long as the missionary declares Jesus Christ as Lord, that missionary is eligible to be named a King's Garden missionary," she said.

Besides Foote and Stewart, others receiving support include Scott and Polly Rempel, Togo, Africa; Larry and Joanne Erdman, Papua, New Guinea; Gordon Oksnevad, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; Steve and B.J. Beacham, Nigeria; David Scott, Peru; Richard and Margaret Ackley, Nigeria; Missionary Tech Team, Longview, and Robin Rimpel, Papua, New Guinea.

## Summer School

Two sessions of summer school are scheduled for 1989 at LeTourneau College, according to George Willcox, director of summer school.

Session One begins May 10 and ends June 20, while Session Two begins June 26 and ends August 4.

"There is also a strong probability that we will offer two or three courses in a three-week interim format this summer," said Willcox.

She added that the summer schedule should be finalized by Feb. 15, with copies available for distribution to students in March.

Three Elderhostel sessions are also planned this summer, with dates set for May 14-20, May 28-June 3, and June 4-10. Giant Step is scheduled for June 25-Aug. 4, and tours are offered May 15-30 to Japan, China and Hong Kong and June 11-25 to Alaska.

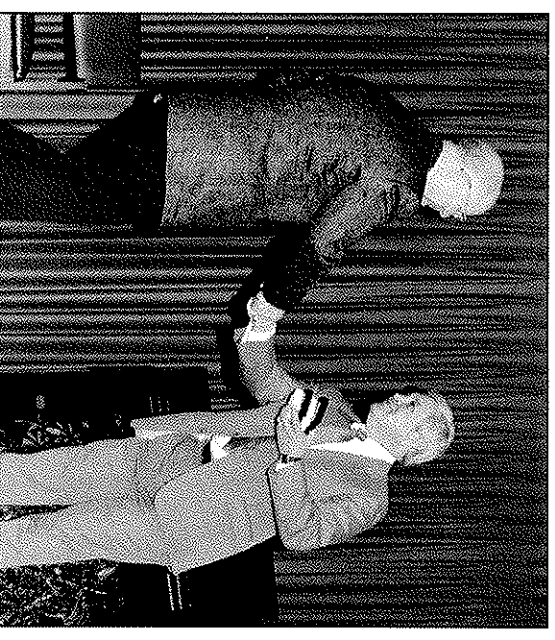
In addition, several sports camps and seminars will be offered during the summer months.

For more information about summer school activities, contact Willcox at 214/753-0231, Ext. 238.

## Founder's Day Observance Draws Large Audience



*A large crowd, including several members of the LeTourneau family, gathered to watch a wreath-laying ceremony Nov. 30 on the campus in honor of R. G. LeTourneau's 100th birthday.*



*College President Alvin O. Austin, right, presents former president Richard LeTourneau with a presidential medallion as part of Founder's Day activities Nov. 30.*

# Alumnus Coordinates Whitewater Championships

For LeTourneau graduate Steve Prosser (BI'77), it's crunch time. As coordinator of the 1989 World Championships of Canoe/Kayak Whitewater Racing, Prosser and his staff are just months away from the start of the first-ever international whitewater championships to be held in the United States, and there are literally hundreds of details to finalize.

"Without the thousand or so volunteers from across the U.S. who are helping with the event, it would be pretty much an impossible task," admitted Prosser.

Of course, having a three million dollar budget also helps, including two million from the State of Maryland and a half million from presenting sponsors Marriott Corporation and Pepsi-Cola.

"The event is attractive to sponsors because of the demographics of the sport and the potential audience for the event," said Prosser. Whitewater sports include recreational canoe and kayak users, river rafters, float trippers, and racers. According to the American Canoe Association, more than 35 million people participated in paddle sports in 1986, including 20 million whitewater rafters. Forty percent of canoe, kayak and rafting participants have college educations, and over 25 percent earn in excess of \$50,000 per year.

Furthermore, whitewater enthusiasts are confident, risk takers, and are interested in the outdoors, physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle.

Over 65 million people (roughly one-third of the U.S.) live within a one-day drive of the championship site, and highlights from the event will be broadcast nationally on July 2 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. by NBC.

The biennial event, sponsored by the International Canoe Federation, was begun 25 years ago in Europe and has been held there ever since.

Whitewater racing, while gaining in popularity in the U.S., has been a favorite pastime for Europeans for a number of years and until recently they dominated international competition.

Since 1979, however, Americans have held the World Championship crown in the one man canoe class, thus gaining a foothold in the sport and the respect of Europeans.

The 1989 Whitewater Championships are being hosted by the American Canoe Association, and will be held June 11-25 on the Savage River in Western Maryland. The Savage offers continuous class III and IV rapids, making it the most exciting and suitable river for these competitions in the United States.

Names such as "Snyder's Sluice," "Conveyor Belt," "Gravity Gulch," "Mear-Grinder Shoals," "Ski Ramp," "Particle Accelerator," and "House Rock Falls," while descriptive of particular sections of the river, also send a fair warning to the faint of heart.

"The river is dam-controlled," explained Prosser, "and when the Corps of Engineers increases the release rate from the normal 50 cubic feet per second to 1,000 cfs, then it becomes a torrent—a world class river."

World Championship racing includes two separate events—wildwater competition and slalom competition. The wildwater competition is a seven-kilometer open-river sprint, a point to point trial with no gates to negotiate or penalties assessed. The slalom competition is 600 meters in length and the racer must pass through 25



*The Prosser family includes Melissa, 8; Nicholas, 4 mos.; Justin, 6; Aaron, 3; Steve and Esther.*

predetermined gates. All racing is against the clock with penalties assessed for striking or missing any of the gates.

Slalom canoeing and kayaking will become the newest events included in the 1992 Olympics to be held near Barcelona, Spain. Inclusion of these events has heightened world interest in the '89 World Whitewater Championships, with many countries preparing their teams for the 1992 Olympiad. More than 600 athletes will compete in the 1989 World Whitewater Championships as over 30 countries from around the world send teams of 20 competitors each. Both men and women compete in the kayak events, while only men compete in the canoe events. In all, 10 different categories are included.

"We follow Olympic protocol, and award a gold, silver and bronze medal in each category," said Prosser. Prosser works for Whitewater World Championships, Inc., and as a member of the executive staff, reports directly to the Executive Director. The group is governed by a 10-member board of directors which includes Maryland Governor William Donald Schaefter and other prominent individuals from around the state.

Prosser left a secure position as director of development for Cedar Ridge, Inc. after five years for his temporary, but highly visible job with Whitewater Championships, Inc. in Jan., 1987. "It seemed like kind of a fun thing to do," he said.

Shortly thereafter, he and several members of the organizing committee went to France to witness the 1987 World Whitewater Championships and take notes. "We started at zero and began to dream," he said. "We pulled together people who could help us reach our dream and now it's a reality."

Whitewater, Inc. is responsible for all advertising, public relations, and sponsorships associated with the World Championships. "My job is to keep the lines of communication open," said Prosser modestly. He also has spent a great deal of time and energy on sponsorship solicitation and negotiation.

"Our sponsors have put up a lot of money and I want to make sure they get what they paid for," he said. When his current position is finished in July, Prosser said he hopes to find another job

"similar to this one—unique and challenging."

That shouldn't be too hard with the contacts he has been making, but for now, the 35-year-old father of four with two master's degrees is concentrating on some immediate goals.

"I'd like this to be the best world championships in a number of ways—for the athletes, for the sponsors, for the media, for the local economy, for the State of Maryland, and for the sport itself," he said.

Determination echoed through the receiver, creating the impression it will be the best championship ever.

"Governor Schaefter really understands tourism and economic development," he added. "Our message about Maryland now is 'America in miniature' and this will give us a chance to show the nation and the world that there are actually mountains in this state," he said.

Prosser said the event will begin with a flourish from the Atlantic Ocean bringing the French flag from the '87 championships up the Potomac River to Cumberland, Md. and then by wagon train to nearby Frostburg, Md. Opening and closing ceremonies will include political speeches, a fireworks display, and performances by groups such as the 500-member Paul Hill Singers from Washington, D.C.

"It started as a snowflake and now it's becoming a blizzard," he said.

Prosser manages to stay in touch with LeTourneau College through his father-in-law, trustee Ammon Stoltzfus, and friend Keith McCoy, also a trustee.

"The education I received at LeTourneau was outstanding," he said. "I've attended several other colleges and if I had it to do over again, I'd go back to LeTourneau for my undergraduate degree."

Prosser has an M.B.A. from Frostburg State University and an M.A. from the University of Texas at Tyler. He also founded the Maryland Wilderness School while at Cedar Ridge and has his own business, Creative Marketing Services. His wife, Esther, is a 1976 LeTourneau graduate and also has a master's from UT Tyler.

He concluded with a laugh that his interest in whitewater may have originated at LeTourneau, where he was known as a "flooder" because of putting a board over the shower door in the men's dormitory.



*Dr. Dan Chrouser chats with December grad Dana Barkdoll.*



*Steve Ziornicki and his mother, Katherine, enjoy December graduation.*



*Sarah Johnson was one of 45 December graduates.*





Sherry Brady and Walter Maweru are all smiles following winter graduation ceremonies Dec. 10.

### Appointment Told

Hilda Louthain has been appointed Director of Educational Media Services at LeTourneau College, according to Dr. Alvin O. Austin, president. Louthain, 24, is a native of Elkhart, Ind. and has a bachelor of arts degree (1986) from Asbury College, Wilmore, Ky., with a master of arts degree (1988) from Baylor University.

"We are pleased to add Hilda to our staff and feel that her knowledge and experience in the area of educational media will be a tremendous resource for the campus," said Austin.

Louthain has extensive experience in video production, including summer work for World Gospel Mission in Kenya and Indiana, an internship with Prison Fellowship in Washington, D.C., and freelance work for Wings for Christ in Waco. In addition, Louthain was a news reporter for two years at WKYT-TV in Lexington, Ky. and is a member of the National Religious Broadcasters. In her new position, Louthain is responsible for meeting the educational media needs of faculty, staff and students; staff supervision; budgeting and special projects. She will report to Dr. Paul Gray, Director of Library Services.



December graduate Brent Wilder poses for a photo with brother Steve (AC '85).

## Alumnus Fulfills Childhood Dream at 30

Alumnus Peter Austin took a different route than most LeTourneau students, but eventually achieved a childhood dream of attending LeTourneau College.

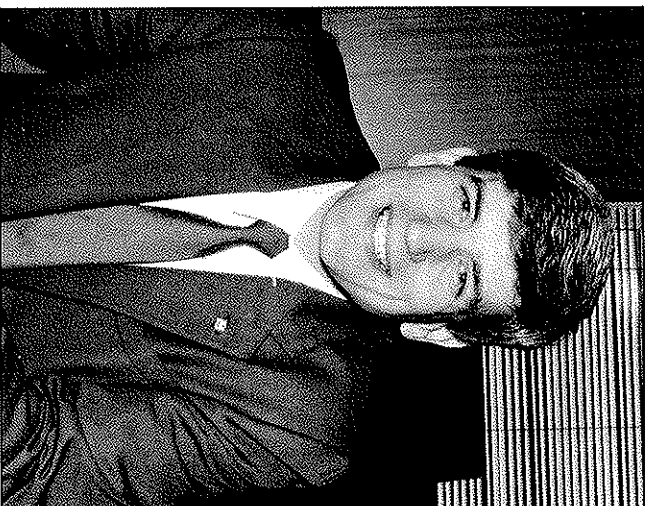
The tall, lanky New York native stayed close to home after graduating from high school and attended nearby Kings College in Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. for a couple of years before deciding to postpone further education in favor of fulltime employment. In 1977 Austin began a four-year stint with the U.S. Navy and was stationed on a sub tender — the USS Dixon — with home port in San Diego. During his tour with the military he served as a pattern maker. After being discharged in 1981, he and his wife, Karen, moved to Longview after learning of a job in the area while on a visit to see his sister and brother-in-law.

After holding several different positions in Longview, Austin decided to continue his education and enrolled at LeTourneau College at age 30.

"I had always wanted to go to LeTourneau ever since I was a kid," said Austin. "It's a household word in the Northeast."

Austin enrolled at LeTourneau in the fall of 1983 and graduated in the spring of 1985 with a bachelor of science degree in business administration.

While a student, he worked part-time in the credit department and as a runner for Allied



Peter Austin

Bank of Longview (now First Interstate Bank) for a year, and then when the position became a full-time one, switched to M Bank Longview.

"Banking was a logical career choice due to a physical disability with my back," said Austin. "While I was in the Navy, the doctors there told me to make a living with my mind instead of my muscles."

The move to banking seems to have paid off, as Austin is now a loan officer and an assistant vice president at M Bank in the Installment Lending Department.

Since joining the company in 1984, he has been promoted several times and was sent to a five month credit management training program in Dallas in 1986.

In addition to his banking responsibilities, Austin is also active in a number of volunteer organizations in the community. He serves as treasurer of two organizations—Grace Brethren Church and Festival in the Pines Inc.—and is a member-at-large on the Executive Committee of the LeTourneau College Alumni Association.

In addition, he is a business consultant for Junior Achievement of East Texas and in this capacity teaches Project Business courses to eighth grade students at Foster Middle School. He also serves as a member of the Free Enterprise Committee at the Longview Chamber of Commerce.

Recently (Dec. 22) the Austins added a son, Michael, to their family, which also includes twin daughters Rebecca and Christina. "I value Christian education very highly," said Austin. "The effort that the professors at LeTourneau put out made an impression on me and the personal attention I received helped to prepare me for my career."

"The interaction with Christian professors also helped to promote spiritual growth and maturity, and to relate the spiritual side of life to how I make a living," he added.

## Student Finds Christianity Has High Price

By Tim Potter, Student Journalist

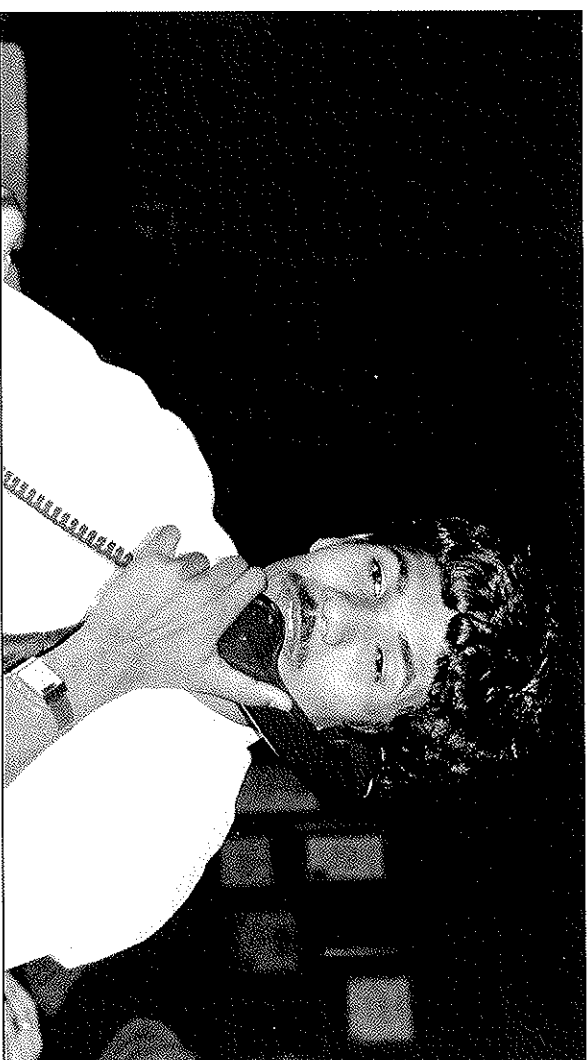
If you are an alumnus, you may have received a telephone call from LeTourneau student Mahendran Balakrishnan during the annual Alumni Phonathon held in October.

If so, you were probably impressed with his friendly and courteous manner, and you just may have found yourself making a pledge to help provide funding for student scholarships. That's not surprising since Mahendran is himself the beneficiary of such a scholarship. But what is surprising is that Mahendran, a sophomore electrical engineering major from Panang, Malaysia, has won awards for most hours worked, most calls made, and most money pledged during each of the past two alumni phonathons, despite being an international student.

Mahendran, however, seems to thrive on hard work. He took 19 hours last fall and is enrolled for 17 hours this spring, and on top of that he works 38 hours per week in the campus work study program.

He is also familiar with discipline. Until three years ago, the tall, slender Tamil Indian was training to be a Brahmin priest and had grown up memorizing the Vedic scriptures that are the foundation of the Hindu religion. His parents are Brahmins who emigrated to Malaysia, but three years ago Mahendran came to know Jesus as his Savior.

Mahendran wears around his neck a gold reliquary given to him by his parents. It used to contain Vedic scripture inscribed in gold. The reliquary is empty now, the result of his



Sophomore Mahendran Balakrishnan completes a call during the alumni Phonathon.

conversion.

Until two-and-a-half years ago, Mahendran didn't have a last name. According to him, most Malaysians don't. When he applied for a visa at the U.S. consulate in Panang, a clerk asked for his name. "Mahendran," he replied. "Well, you must have a last name!," stated the clerk. "What is your father's name?," the clerk asked. "Balakrishnan," answered Mahendran. This is how he received a last name.

Mahendran's conversion to Christianity has cost him much. His middle-class family has completely disowned and disinherited him, he said, and his father will not speak to him, even if they are in the same room. Mahendran was promised in marriage to a distant cousin, but because he is now a Christian, the marriage is off.

Mahendran speaks Tamil, Malay, and Hokkein, a Chinese dialect, as well as English. Adjusting to a new language, foods and customs has been difficult, but he has made the adjustment. Matthew 19:29 says, "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life" (NIV).

Mahendran likes attending LeTourneau and being a member of the Alpha Omega Society. He said he feels that God has given him at least a hundredfold over what he had to give up. Mahendran was once very angry at his family, but God has given him a new peace of mind. Now, he has a goal to be a missionary where he can lead others to Christ.



# Alumni News

## CLASS OF 1961

Dr. Norman Shick (BI) is the new pastor for the Faith Fellowship Chapel in Cape May Court House, N.J. Along with his wife, Mary, Norm will serve as pastor and be responsible for the Cape May County Christian School which is operated by the church.

## CLASS OF 1965

Dave (MT) and Marlene Lawrence are busy at the JAARS Center in North Carolina working on computers and doing some teaching there.

## CLASS OF 1966

Tom (MI) and Carolyn Pace are now in Albuquerque on furlough. While here they plan to share about their work in Peru.

## CLASS OF 1969

The last word from Jim (BI) and Bonnie Storey was that their work papers had been approved for Jamaica. They should be in Jamaica now working with the people there.

Byron (BI/MI) and Linda Myers write from Venezuela that they hope to be in the U.S. in June of this year for a furlough.

Nard (AT) Pugyao continues to use his AT training as he instructs student pilots. He and his wife, Sandy, help to prepare students for Missionary Aviation.

## CLASS OF 1973

Thomas F. Douglass (AC) passed away Dec. 26, 1988. Tom was 35 years old and had suffered from a cancerous brain tumor for the past three-and-a-half years. He loved the Lord and was an active contributor to several Christian organizations, including LeTourneau College. The Scriptures used at his funeral were Romans 12:12 and Psalms 116:15.

## CLASS OF 1974

Dan (EE) and Barbara Anderson know they have job security for another two to three years. That's how long it will take to build seven radio transmitters for World Radio Fellowship.

## CLASS OF 1975

Summer Institute of Linguistics has two dedicated workers in Darrel (MT) and Cheryl Eppler. Darrel was involved in typesetting three major Scripture publications this year. Cheryl kept busy with Kids' Club, ladies Bible studies and a two-year-olds' Sunday school.

## CLASS OF 1976

E-Systems has promoted John Kelso (MT). He is now an acting supervisor.

## CLASS OF 1979

Lois (BU/AT) and Tim Hunter have been in Cameroon, Africa for two years now. Lois services the 12 SIL vehicles there and Tim supervises the computer department.

The news from George (AT) and Debbie Bender is that Papua, New Guinea will be their home for the next four years. Their children, Gwen and Luke, will accompany them as George works as the aviation parts manager. Good luck!

The Vannattos, Paul (MT) and June (BI/MI) have been busy in Benin, West Africa. June is teaching son Jonathan this school year and taking care of Nathan, too. Paul is supervising construction of several new houses and buildings.

## CLASS OF 1980

Wedding bells rang for Jim L. Pitts (EE) and Amber Lehman Dec. 22, 1988.

A fourth child has been born to Randy (BU) and Joyce Jordan. Gregory Paul arrived Nov. 2, 1988.

## CLASS OF 1981

Jim Jolsonnet (MT/AT) has a new job with VARO in Garland, Texas. He was formerly with E-Systems.

John Barker (AT/BI) is headed to the U.S. from Kenya. He flies in supplies and medical personnel to various areas in Africa for Helimission. It is also reported that he has taken up Pokot war dancing.

## CLASS OF 1982

The International Conference for Amateur Radio and Digital Techniques awarded Mark Rice (ET/AT) first prize for his work. Mark won the award for a paper he wrote in a graduate class. He is a graduate student at East Texas State University and is employed by E-Systems.

The families of Jim (BU/AT) and Nancy (83,DT) Walter were glad to have them home for a few weeks for Christmas. Nancy acts as dispatcher for aircraft and Jim is a pilot for Air Serv in Khartoum.

Jim (ET) and Barbie Knickerbocker write from Okinawa about their busy year. Jim is enjoying his work with the Air Force and Barbie is involved in the Okinawa Christian Womens Club. Their three children—Christopher, David and Andrea—are all doing well.

## CLASS OF 1984

Daniel Parks (PE/AT) has been flying the Falcon 20 aircraft since July, 1988 out of Tulsa, Okla. Dan and wife Sally also had a new arrival. Their first child, Christopher Daniel, was born Sept. 15, 1988.

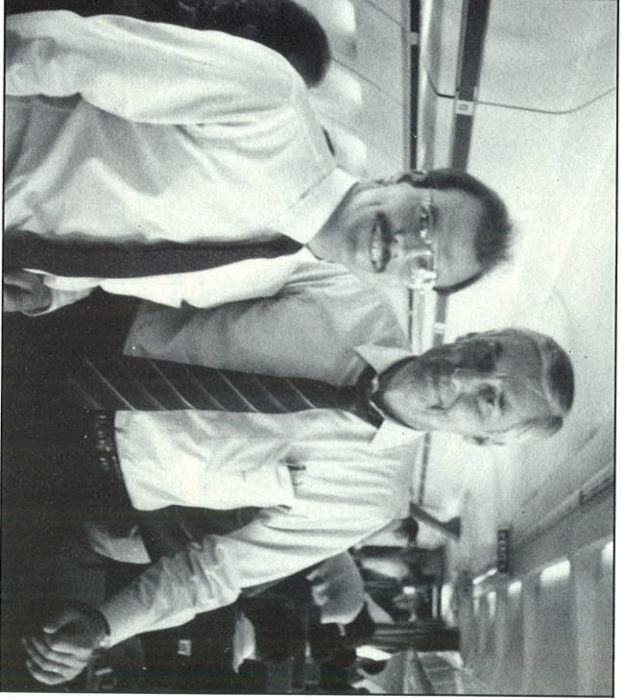
Jason Paul Roszhart was born Sept. 19, 1988. He is the son of Carol (BY) and Doug (ME) Roszhart.

## CLASS OF 1986

Scott (AT) and Jennifer Bleecker have added another child to their family. Kimberly Rae was born Nov. 29, 1988 and joins sister Kristen and brothers Daniel and Matthew.

## CLASS OF 1988

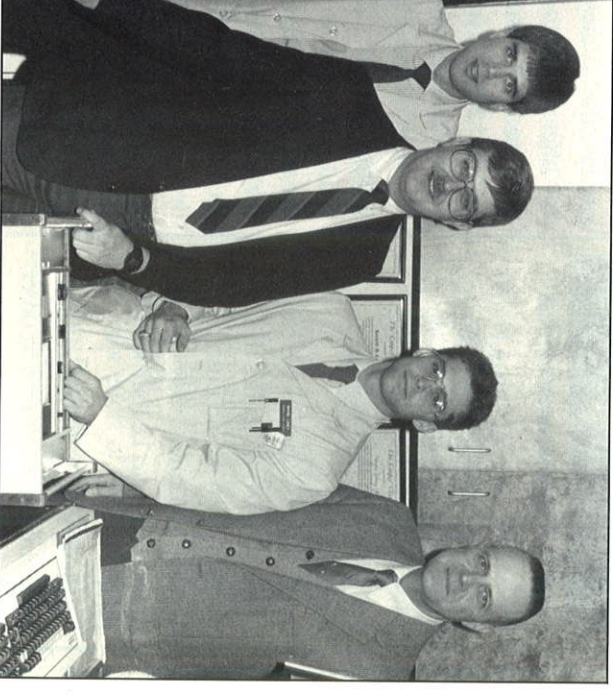
Congratulations to Timothy Bauman (WT) and Wendy Winkler, who were married Dec. 16, 1988.



Alumnus Frank Settles III (HI/EN '86), left, poses with U.S. Senator Lloyd Bentsen during a flight. Settles, a flight attendant for American West Airlines, traveled with Bentsen for six weeks last fall during the presidential campaign.



The LeTourneau College Singers, l. to r., include Tim Graber, Darrell Wright, Debbie Lang, Mary Beth Booth, Marlin Brubaker, Director Scarlett Morris, Patricia Metcalf, Sharon Nelson, Chris Robertson, and Kelly Kampen.



Bob Marsh, assistant professor of physical education, and Roger Erickstad, associate professor of mathematics, receive a tour of the Cooper Clinic in Dallas from fitness evaluators Brad Erickstad (ME '81), left, and Wayne Loney, center. The Cooper Clinic recently donated an EKG unit, cardiachometer, and an electric blood pressure machine to LeTourneau College.

## Tours Planned

The LeTourneau College Division of Special Programs will conduct two tours in 1989, according to George Wilcox, director. Included are trips to Japan, China and Hong Kong May 15-30 and Alaska June 11-24. LeTourneau Tours feature a knowledgeable tour director, personalized Book of Memories, help with passports and other details, first class or deluxe accommodations, daily devotionals, stops at major sites plus less-visited attractions, good food, dependable transportation, reputable hotels, and ample time for shopping and leisure. College credit is available for those who want to do required reading and other assignments. Wilcox, an experienced international travel guide, will lead both tours and invites those interested in additional information, including a free brochure, to contact her at 214/753-0231, Ext. 238.



# Baseball Season Gets Underway Feb. 11

The cry of "Play Ball" will soon be heard as baseball season gets underway for the Yellowjackets and Coach Bob Marsh Feb. 11 against East Texas rival Wiley College.

The 'Jackets have set their goals high for 1989 and hope to capture their third straight District 6 championship and an unprecedented fifth straight bid to the NCCAA World Series in South Bend, Ind. in May. Leading the team this year are senior co-captains George Dunham and Tony Wolfe. Dunham was a 1987 NCCAA All-American infielder and Wolfe turns a mean double-play at second base. Both are clutch hitters and Dunham led the nation in hitting with a .468 mark last spring. He was also named to the NCCAA Academic All-American Team.

Seniors Jeff Burkhart (pitcher), Scott Patterson (DH-1B), and Randy Fish (pitcher) will also play key roles for the 'Jackets in '89. Burkhart and Fish are returning to LeTourneau College after laying out of school for a while and both felt led to return to LeTourneau and continue their education. Patterson possesses good power at the plate and also has good hands at first base.

Four juniors will see plenty of action for the Blue and Gold Machine as well, with Bart Balswick (P-DH), Aaron James (P-DH), Dan Rose (OF), and Brian Wallace (SS-2B) battling for starting roles.

Balswick was an All-District 6 pitcher last year and James also figures to be part of the one-two connection in leading the pitching staff.

Rose is a good contact hitter capable of stealing 10-15 bases and Wallace also possesses good speed and hands in the middle infield.

Six sophomores will vy for playing time, including Dan Robey (CF), Darren McKinney (OF), Jerry Stillwell (1B-DH), Scott Wier (C-2B), Scott Hansen (P-SS), and Marty Peters (OF).

Robey is the quickest player ever to step into a 'Jacket uniform, according to Marsh, and will patrol centerfield. McKinney and Peters will push for playing time in the outfield and Stillwell appears to be headed for a starting role at first base. Stillwell also has good power and runs well for a big man.

Hansen and Wier will be in their initial season of play for the 'Jackets, but both have the physical tools to push for playing



The LeTourneau College Yellowjackets prepare to defend their NCCAA District 6 Championship.

time. Wier is an extremely hard worker and Hansen could be the sleeper on the pitching staff, according to Marsh.

Seven "rookies" (freshmen) round out the squad this year. Included are Jason Beldon (1F-OF), Dale Black (P-OF), Ron Cole (OF-P), Darren Guthrie (1F), David Noble (OF), Neil Sommerville (1F), and Brad Walimire.

Beldon is a good hitter who can play several positions and Black will need to pick up a few victories on the mound before the season is over if the 'Jackets are to have a good year.

Cole and Guthrie are local East Texas teammates from Kilgore and figure to battle for starting spots in the outfield and infield, respectively.

Noble has good speed and is a tough out at the plate, and Marsh said he could push for a lot of playing time before the spring is over.

Sommerville and Walimire are developing freshman who have added much to the team by their positive attitudes and relentless work ethic.

The 'Jackets highlight of the season will be a spring break mission trip to Mexico in March as part of Sports Evangelism International.

Marsh said the 'Jackets are capable of winning 20-25 games this spring, which would push him over the 100 career victory mark since coming to LeTourneau in 1984.

"We'll all have to fill key roles at key points in the season in order to be successful," he said.

"We don't have any superstars. . . just a bunch of scrappy, hustling men that want to play ball for the Lord."

## Some Points to Ponder in Planning A Will

By Wayne W. Archer

As Director of Planned Giving for LeTourneau College, I frequently hold will seminars to help individuals with their estate planning. I try to help them plan to fulfill their desires and responsibility toward loved ones, to support the Lord's work and save taxes in the process.

Wherever I go, there are always two recurring questions: 1) Why is probating a will so difficult and painful? 2) How can

I be certain my children won't squabble over my personal items? The subject of probate can become complicated and I have found no easy-to-understand outline explaining the process. Problems are further complicated because the statutes of each state are different and each family's estate and the personalities involved are always unique.

(Please feel free to write for *A Practical Guide to Probate a Will*.)

While visiting with Marsha (not her real name) the other week, she told me that her mother had died in a car accident. During the time she and her brother John were dividing her mother's property, a terrible fight broke out between the siblings over a silver coffee service. They actually wrestled over the service — yanking it back and forth while screaming at each other. It was an awful sight. Now they don't speak to each other. And to make

matters worse, the grief-stricken father sold the service and gave each of the children half of the proceeds. It's certain that Marsha does not want her children to argue over her personal property! I suggested that along with her will, she write a "Letter of Instruction" to her family. She wrote a letter filled with love and warmth as she told of her faith in the Lord, the reasons for her desires and instructions for the handling of her affairs. Marsha carefully named and described items for each child as well as suggesting the college the children might attend. She clearly described why she placed a percentage of her estate to be given to the Lord's work through the will. She also set forth the important little details not included in a will.

Marsha also put down in black and white just where her important papers are. Marsha has now done her best for her family and the Lord's work both financially and emotionally.

You may know someone who has a similar story or you may want to take a careful look at your own estate disposition procedure. To help answer some of your questions, please write for your

free copy of *A Practical Guide to Probate A Will* or *Women's Financial Planner*.

Write to Wayne Archer, c/o LeTourneau College, P.O. Box 7333, Longview, TX 75607, or call 214/753-0231.

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